12.

THE

POLITICIAN DISCOVERED,

OR

CONSIDERATIONS

Of the late

Pretenſions

That *FRANCE* Claims to *ENGLAND* and *IRELAND*; and her DESIGNS and PLOTS in Order thereunto.

In Two Serious

DISCOURSES,

By a True Proteſtant and Well-wiſher of his Countrey.

LONDON,
Printed for and are to be ſold by *Langley Curtis* in *Goat-Court* on *Ludgate-hill*, 1681.

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THE

French Politician Found Out.

THE

FIRST DISCOURSE.

Ribier, *Du Chaſtelet*, The Author of the *French Politician*, and other *Libellers* in *France*, have had the Confidence of late to pour out ſuch a torrent of Injuries, ſhallow Pretenſions, and Titles to *England*, that a Subject long acquainted with their Ways, thought himſelf bound in Duty and Faithfulneſs to his King and Countrey, humbly to lay ſome of his Obſervations before them; whereby it may poſſibly

possibly appear, that *France* is not so much our Friend as she of late pretended: That these Pretensions of hers are not the meer Academick Notions of some private Speculatist, but the sense of their Rulers; that they do but watch their Opportunity to put these and other Claims into Execution against us. And therefore if this be in some manner made manifest, that we can never have a fitter opportunity than now to be before-hand with them, in entring into a Confederacy and Arms, if need be, with our Neighbours, against these Common Enemies, least when they have too much weakened the rest, they become too strong for us alone, especially at Sea.

Let's then observe, That it hath been of late a Practice of *France*, to make use of such Title-Broachers, as her Trumpets and Heraulds, a little before she's resolved to invade any Countrey, to publish some Right, forsooth, to those Nations whom next she intends to set upon against Right and Reason, thereby to raise the Valour of her own Men with the speciousness of Justice in their Undertaking; to divide the Minds and Resolutions of some on the future Enemies side: to suspend also the hands of her Neighbours, from intermeddling in a Quarrel which seems so plausible, or at least so doubtful; and that surely *France* (think they) cannot

cannot be unjust or rash in Actions, whereof she is ready to give such a fair Accompt to the World before-hand: And it is Prudence first to see what her Adversaries will answer her; so say they. And thus *France* leaving the Matter dormant, for a while, as if she thought no more of it; before, or as soon as her Adverse Party makes an Answer to her *Manifesto*, she suddenly and unexpectedly comes and makes her Reply with her Sword; there's that she would be at, from the very beginning; let your Defence to her claim be never so strong and just. Tush! that was but an Amusement, and her *Inter Arma silent Leges*, scorns to be bawked with such Punctilio's.

All observing Persons might be furnished with Proofs enough of this Maxime, in the late Conduct of *France* toward her Neighbours; but here are some whereof I had a nearer occasion than many to know the particulars.

Cardinal *Richelieu*, who as it is known first laid the Design of making his Master the Supream Monarch of all Christendom, before he attackt *Spain*, in order thereunto encourages *Cassan* to write his Book of the *Pretensions* of *France*, upon all or most of the Kingdoms and Principalities of *Europe*; which he goes about to prove of each one in particular, either

ther by former Conquest, by Alliances and Successions, by Clauses in Treaties, and such other obsolete Titles. However this Pretension Writer so tickled the French Ambition, and gave such seeming Colours to those Designs they would be upon otherwise, had they no ground at all; that the Cardinal ordered a present of Sixteen thousand Livers to be given to that Author; and so sent his Generals to go and pursue with the Sword these goodly Claims and forgotten Inheritance of the French Kings.

Arroy, Du Puy, D' Aubery, and others, had no worse recompence, and were set on before these late Wars against *Germany* and *Flanders*; for to forge Titles to these Countries their Master had with himself determined to invade. They have done it however, but were smartly answered by *Lisola* and *Ramos*; and though Monsieur *D' Ambrun* bragg'd then at *Madrid*, that *Ramos* was the only Man *Spain* had to maintain its Interest upon the point of the Devolution; but that the King of *France* could make out his Right at the Head of Sixty thousand Lawyers; yet his Master-scorning to stand to make good this French Gasconade, rather chose to speak at the Head of more than Sixty thousand Armed Men: While his Ambassadors were thus drolling and cajolling with

with their unwary Neighbours; and Amuſing them with fair Pretences and Promiſes of Proving their Right by Lawyers and Mediators. But alas! with *France* it is too ſcrupulous a Nicety, ſo to depend on the Deciſions at the Bar, or on thoſe at *Munſter*, *Breda*, or *Nimeguen* either; her King will plead his Rights but with the Mouths of his Cannons bravely, *Alexander* like; and he's told he hath more Right to all *Europe* than this Young *Grecian* had to *Aſia*.

For *Patru* in his New Law Book left this on Record as a perpetual Maxime to be followed by *France*, which he oft before maintained in open Parliament, *That the Word* Kingdom, *with them, doth comprehend generally all the Lands, Principalities, and Dominions, which Fortune, Succeſs and the Valour of the French Monarchs, can add to the Sacred Subjection of the* Flower de Luce. *And as* Rivers *and* Rivolets, *by entring into the Sea, loſe themſelves preſently, with all their particular qualities, as ſoon as they are incorporated to the Noble Ocean, ſo all conquered Provinces and Nations, do loſe their peculiar Names, Priviledges, and Prerogatives, to be made Members of the Firſt Monarchy of the VVorld, and of its Laws and Privileges.*

Pray tell me where this Maxime will not

reach, or be made to stretch rather. For as the Habit in any unjust Course will mortifie the remorse, and check the Sense of all other Law, that may dictate the contrary; so *France*, by a long practice of following these boundless Maximes, is become as it were accustomed to think that her Conquests must be as large as her Ambition; and that those Nations do really belong to her, she and her Mercenary Pens had but a Fancy of Right unto in the beginning.

But what of all this, you'll say; these are but general Presumptions and Jealousies, when *France* puts in no Claim against *England*; I never heard of any, I can't fancy which way. Then hear further:

The fore-mentioned *Ribier* (among the rest) sets out this Title of *France* to the *English* Crown, as you may more fully see in his French Book, and in the following Discourse; And one is in right of the Dolphin *Lewis*, Son to *Philip Augustus*, who by the Popes means, and of some of the Rebelling Lords, entred and was Crowned here in *England*, and ravaged here a good while; designing by a general Massacre of all the English Princes and Peers to shorten his Conquest: till one of his French Cabinet Councellors could not die quietly till he revealed this horrible Project to some of the English Nobility. Such a Right as

as this, with such other, the French Kings are put in Remembrance of in their Coronation Oath.

Such another Claim they lay to *Scotland* in Right of *Francis* the Second, who married *Mary Steward* Queen of *Scotland*; and though she had no issue by him, yet 'tis a Maxime with them, That the Crown can lose none of the Rights it once had, and that no Alienation can be made from it, but it still Reinters.

By a Sequel of the same Maxime, they go on and say, That *Ecclesia est sicut Minor*. That no Alienation can be made from the Church no more than from *Minors*. But *Ireland* belong'd to the Church of *Rome*, to which the Natives gave themselves up long ago; now the French King is Eldest Son of the Church, and her Heir: Nay it's said, that his good Old Mother either sold or gave him that Kingdom, when she could make nothing of it her self; and may he not then claim it upon as good and better Grounds than *Spain* took and kept *Navarr* from its Lawful King, being an Heretick; of which that Wise Granam deprived him by no other Right then by that by which she pretends to dispossess Heretick Kings.

It was by that Right she sent her Nuncio to display the Banner of Rebellion in *Ireland* in 41, and another Nuncio in or about 78, to raise the same Tragedy. Was it not by this Transport

or making over of *Ireland* to her most Christian Son, that the Titular Bishop *Talbot*, undertook with others in Seventy three to prepare a Sea-Port Town in *Ireland* by *Bribe* or *Stratagem* to Receive a French Army, and to have *Irish* enough secretly enlisted in a readiness to meet them; when they Attemped first to Kill the *English* Agent, who came to disclose their Designs, and prevailed with Secretary *Perridge* and others to Post after him; *Swearing, That if they met* Everard, *he would never come to* England *to tell Tales*; as even Sir *Edward Hungerford*, *who chanc'd to meet them remembers.* When upon another sham Accusation they thought they had procured his Mouth to be for ever stopt in the Tower, then I say they went on still with their Design in Favour of *France*; and some others, unknown to the former, who since deserted their Camps, discloſed that the said *Talbot* and others, were in 78, carrying on the same Treachery as securely as before: And some, even in this very Month, came from *Ireland*, and Accused, as is said, before the Council, those very Persons, with other Titular French Agents, as *Plunkett*, *Molony*, &c. of which some were, as it is known, in great Favour and Correspondency with the French Court.

But supposed the *French*, had with the Papists conceived such a Design on *England* or *Ireland*, yet

yet you say the Possibility of putting it into Execution, will still hinder it and make it Abortive. That the Landing of any Forreigner would be the Uniting of all our Divided Parties together against them; that they would be met with as Vnaminous a Resolution as when they were thought to have Landed at *Purbeck Island* last Year. And besides that, we would Clap up all Papists in such a Juncture that they are disarmed: And even the French themselves are sensible of this; therefore their Fleet and Back is Turned from us toward *Italy and Germany.*

Though it is not my Design to dispute much about the possibility of an Attempt, which I wish might be for ever impossible; yet for conscience sake, and to remove our Countreymens too much security, I say that neither you, nor any man, can know all the Papists, French, and other disaffected, præ-ingaged, Innovators, and Pensioners in *England*, who *Protheus* like; can shape themselves to all Figures: therefore how can you secure them all; how can you disarm them totally: And can you Answer for the Sentiments and Interest of all the different Parties in *England*, and specially in *Ireland*, which side they would incline? In *Ireland*, where to one Protestant there are three Papists, can you vouch they'll sooner joyn with an English Heretick than with

with a French Catholick? So many Ignorant Blind Zealots, so many Priest-ridden Furies, so many outed of their Estates on former Delinquencies, so many Thousands of Frenchified Officers and Cashiered Soldiers and Tories straggling there, shall they, think you, sooner joyn with English, against whom they have a blind Antipathy, than with those whom they look upon as damned Miscreants, Tyrants, Vsurpers of their Countrey and Religion, than with the *French Romanists*, whom they would welcome as Saviours and Restorers of their All: Nay as they think they lost all by the English, they'd venture all they have, *viz.* their Lives, for the French or other Foreigner. Neither can we be aware of all the Arms they may have hid, they may have Conveyed to them secretly; of all the Arms their fury could make use of in an uproar? What Store of Arms needed they for the Massacre of the *Danes*, or for the Massacre of the Protestants in *Ireland*? And can't their Holy Father enjoyn again, on such an Occasion, a *Third Massacre* to be prepetrated *to the full Honour of the Holy Trinity in Three Persons*?

In a word, what need we so much Dispute Touching the Impossibility of an Invasion, to render our selves more secure, when our own Histories do convince us how often, to our Cost, such

such a thing hath been done, which we could not prevent, when for our sins God would suffer it to be, by some Art we could not foresee till done. And not to mention our General Conquests, can we forget that same in King *John*'s Time, those other Landings of *Spaniards* and *Italians* in *Ireland* in Queen *Elizabeth*'s Time, at the Invitation of the Pope and Papists? But you'll say we were then less Powerful, we were then more divided, we have stopped those Gapps; and it may be too they have refined their Pollicies and Ways of Attacking to the height of your Preparedness: and what ever our Power is now, I am sure the French were never more formidable and more fit to struggle with us. And our secret Divisions are near as great as our open ones were then; a little Spark from abroad, would perhaps, make it break out into a Flame; and our secret Enemies are no less dangerous than open ones: These can be known and met withal, but those cannot; and would be ready at a Watch-word to follow on the back of us; arising, as it were, out of an Ambuscado.

Yet all this, dear Countreymen, is said to caution and not to dishearten us, and to Unite and prepare us; as Fencers do shew the several Passes that can be made upon us, for to be ready to parry 'em, if need require.

My

My Design is not to dishearten, but to awaken and unite, to shew that this is the Greatest Plot of all, *viz.* to work our Disunion, which makes all others successful.

For I do not presume to say, That the French are just now ready for us, or preparing against us, but that the French do presume to set up Claims to our Countrey, is apparent to the World in their Books and late Manifesto's; and give out mean, contemptible Characters of us, to seek to raise the Spirits of their Natives to triumph over us; that whether such things be done in Joke or Earnest, it is by such Artifices they began the Conquest of our Neighbours; its plain that they never let any of their Pretensions die, but watch fit opportunities for the execution of them; that the extraordinary number of their present Ships, is not answerable to any Design they might have on any Inland Towns or Places in *Italy* or *Germany*. What use is there of Ships to sail on the Land, that if there were no other Attempt against us, their Fleet is such, that it ought to breed Jealousie and Fears of Encroachments upon the Right of our Soveraignty on these Seas, on our Plantations, Sea-port Towns, and our Inward and Outward Trade and Comerce; on the Rights and Priviledges of our Neighbours, who for these many Ages stood as our Bulwarks and Banks against the swellings of this ambitious and

and active Nation, never so powerful as now. That his strengthening and manning his Sea-port-Towns ought to be taken notice of, his turning out of all Protestant Officers from off his Ships. The Sums of Money he returns to *Rome*, the Prayers they make for his Designs there, the unconcernedness that *Rome* and other Popish Neighbours are in, touching his vast Preparations. The strong Leagues he makes with *Swedeland* and *Denmark*, and with other Princes; wherein he strives to prevent us. All these Considerations, I say, should make us quickly to Re-unite among our selves, Prince and People, Dissenters and Protestants; and I dare say, if a War were thought fit to be made with *France*, in Union with our Neighbours, there would be no better means to Re-unite us all; for this is the grand Plot of all other Plots; to keep us still disunited, to open a gap and inlet in our Body for a Foreigner.

Yet after all, knowing that the main difficulty will still lie herein, to perswade us that the French are not so much our Friends as we believe them to be; and fearing we should be thought to wrong that Nation rashly or groundless, I will more particularly quote some of the Authors of the French Politick's Policies, which he proposes to his King, and will confirm by many Secret and Publick Transactions and Matters Fact, that in their continual Practice they do fol-

low these Maximes I will not insist on the means he offers of enslaving his own Country, let them look to that, of raising more the Nobilities power over the People; of devesting of the Parliaments Prerogatives to invest the King therewith; of bringing down the Clergy, that he make the Leeches of the Publick Revenue disgorge: Let him, I say, suggest means of Arming at Sea, without charge to the Crown, of improving of Trade, and the Colonies and filling of the Kings Coffers: But what hath he to do to be a *Pedagogue* to his Ambitious Prince, for to inslave other free Nations that have nothing to do with him.

This Politician then tells his King, That *Spain* is slow and stupid, and are not sensible of any smooth trick he may put upon 'em, but only of Affronts upon the Punctilio of Honour, yield 'em in that a little. He incites his Master to fill *Portugal* with Soldiers, to act in due time; and that the French Queen her self ought to second this by her Friends in *Spain*. He advises him to sow Divisions 'twixt the Prince of *Orange* and the *Hollanders* and the *English*, on the other side. To bridle *Spain*, and set these Nations to weaken and undermine each other. Let the King endeavour (saith he) to break their Leagues and Allies the one from the other, by feeding them with promises of imaginary

ginary ſupplies on that condition, and of joyning the French Fleet to theirs; but they muſt have Orders to Act but for a ſhew and not in earneſt.

Now he comes to propoſe the ways of undermining *England*. And firſt he calls her Perfidious, and without Faith or Truſt. That *France* ought to make no Treaty or Peace with her, but on advantagious and ambiguous terms; yet he wiſhes his Maſter to diſſemble with *England* for to devour her the laſt. He then begins to declare by what Artificers this King muſt be brought to conceive Jealouſies of his Engliſh Subjects and Parliament, and the Parliament likewiſe of the King; and to bring about that they may not abide the one the other, nor cloſe one with the other.

In keeping the Engliſh thus in Feudes among themſelves (ſaith he) the French will have time to puſh the Wheel of their Intereſt forward, and promote their own Deſigns abroad and againſt us without controul or ſuſpicion, and then it will be eaſie enough to find a pretence to break openly with us, either on the account of the Title of *France* we take, and that the King of *England* muſt be put to it to renounce the ſame; as Queen *Elizabeth* forced *Francis* the Second of *France* and Queen *Mary* of *Scotland*

to quit the Title of *England*, they put in the Stile, &c. or else to pick a Quarrel on the Point of the Precedency of our Ambassadors.

Then he comes to shew after what manner *France* must seize on *Scotland*, seeing that thence first sprung the Fire (as he says) that set *England* on a Flame. Then he doubts not but that *Ireland* will carry things very far of it self. Afterwards that Sects must be set at variance, one English with another; by which means *Germany*, and the Seventeen *Provinces* were put to Confusion.

That the King of *England* must be made a Favourer of the Catholicks, and Letters to be framed which must be interpreted for the proving of it. Then that the *Hollander* must be flattered that the French will make the Trade fall from *England* into their hands. That *Belle Isle*, or the Island of *Rhe* may be given to the Knights of *Maltha*, who must demand of *England* to restore the Commanderies and Benefices they formerly had here.

But this Author finding that his Master would be too much fettered, by seeking out Pretences of Right to Countreys, tells him plainly that he needs such and such places more; and that's reason enough (for their Conscience.) He needs

needs (saith he) to get *Strasburg*; the French *Comty*; the State of *Milan*, and of *Gene*, *Portolongone* and *Piombin*; for to reduce *Suisserland*, *Savoy*, *Tuscany*, *Madera*, *Parma* and *Rome* it self; that *Sardinia*, *Naples*, and *Sicily* would follow of themselves. But that in fine, *Fontdraby*, *Navarr*, *Majorca*, and *Minorca*, would fit him mighty well toward his Universal Monarchy Undertaking; but he's a Fool, could not he have put him on the Conquering of *Spain* at his first step, and so all these same subordinate States would fall to him by course.

Being then in Employ at the French Court, we were told that his Majesty of *Great Britain*, as soon as he read these pernicious Maximes, lookt upon one of the *Colberts*, then here Ambassador, angrily saying, *He well perceived that* France *did not coake him but to destroy him.* But that they bragg'd that *Colbert* put it handsomely off, by saying, *That this Book, was composed by* Lisola *the* German, *and to defame* France; which incited the Curious to Examine whether that were true or not; but they found that the stile and manner was quite different, and that these Maximes were but for the advantage of *France* alone.

This Manuscript of the *French Politician*, had

had lain long in the French Kings Cabinet, whence an Officer was found to have stollen a Copy of it; then it was printed clandestinely, and care was taken for the suppressing it.

But to evince it more closely and undeniably, that that Book, with the other, which I quoted above, came out of the French Mint, that's out of their Cabinets; I'll manifest it by their late Practice in every one of those Maximes, that are set down in the *French Politician*. It's true, that Mareschal *Villeroy*, a great Statesman, was wont to reduce the main Stratagems, by which they wheadled their Neighbours, to these two, *Par Finance & Finesse*, that is by Money and Cunning and Conney too, which is one of their chief Nets to catch their Neighbours in. But to come to particulars, Their chief Artifices for dividing and undermining their Friends, may be reduced to these following: 1. By *Sinons* or pretended Fugitives. 2. By Pentioners in our Councils. 3. By Alliances and French Ladies. 4. By breaking open and diciphering our Secretest Letters. 5. By sending Auxiliaries that favour our Enemies. 6. By Ambiguous Treaties, to gain time and advantage of breaking them. 7. By spreading Slaunders and fomenting Jealousies betwixt the Kings and their People. 8. By entertaining a secret League with the Turk.

Now

Now to begin with those more general and remote means, which *France* takes to divide her Neighbours in their Leagues and Amity. She usually calls in the Turk upon the back of 'em; and this *most Christian* King will not stick to enter into secret Covenants with that Antichristian Tyrant against the rest of Christendom. I need not mount up so high as *Francis* the I. *Henry* the II. and other their Successors, who openly brought in the Turk against *Charles* the V. and other Emperors; publick Histories can bear me Witness in it. *Rincon* and *Fregose* were taken by the way, seized with Instructions from *Francis* the I. to *Soliman*, to excite this Infidel to War against the Christian Princes; and when any of *Francis* his Neighbours would upbraid him with such Antichristian Treacheries, he could put it off but with a Drollery: *What*, says he, *May not I, when beset with Wolves, call in for Dogs to help me.* But to come to our times, What made the French to be the occasion of the loss of *Candia*, and to yield the advantage at *Gigerys* and *Hongary*; but for to manage the Turkish Amity to oppose him to the Emperor, if he proffers to stir or to enter into Tripple League. They sent some Supplies, 'tis true, to dazzle the World, but when *La Feuillade* (who knew not the Secret) brought his Men to an Engagement, he was opposed by *Coligny*;

Coligny; who had Orders to do things but for a shew. Besides, the King sent Counter Orders with some of the major Officers, which they were to read, but when they came to *Candia*; Monsieur *De Louvas* hindred many of the most valiant and considerable Officers, Gentry and Soldiers, to go thither, even as Voluntiers. In fine, The Divisions, Counter-seasons, and wilful Misunderstandings of the French with their Allies, in that occasion, did more to the loss of the City, than the Batteries of the Turks, who had spent some score years in vain toward the Conquest of that place, but could never get it out of the *Venetians* single hands, till these double-dealing French Friends came into help more toward the losing of it than the maintaining it; so that the *Venetians* might have had more reason to send back these French Supplies than they had in returning home Prince *Almerick* of *Modena's* Succours upon some such suspicion.

And the Turkish Embassador (a thing very unusual to be sent from the Ottoman Grandeur) who afterwards was dispatch'd to the French Court, unriddles the Matter, and though the King made the difficile and scornful with him, yet he sent Orders to caress him and make much of him in secret, as looking upon the Mahumetans to be one of the chief Supporters of his Crown and State.

And

And as the French will be Friends with the Turks to use 'em against their Enemies, so with those they pretend openly to help, as their Friends, they deal as with Turks in effect, by underhand Conspiracies; I mean in their Auxiliary Supplies to their Allies: Their Succours tend but to leave 'em in the lurch, to be destroyed by their Concurrents; that when he hath ingaged the Frog and silly Mouse to a Fight, to weaken the one the other, he, the French Kite, might the more easily snatch 'em both away in his greedy Talons. Besides what we alledged above of his treacherous Auxiliaries to *Hongary* and *Candia*, we may intimate those he sent some years ago to help *Holland* against the Bishop of *Munster*; and a little afterwards on the same Claims sets *Munster* again *Holland*; and when it came to the push, leaves him to the mercy of the *Hollander*, all he sought for, being but to seek to destroy those two (Supporters of *Flanders*) the one by the Hands of the other. His Design was the same touching *England*, when of late he sent his Fleet to assist us against *Holland*, with secret Orders to *d'Estree*, to leave the English and Hollander to destroy each other.

While *France*, both at the Treaty of the Pirenees, and afterwards, had sworn a firm Offensive and Defensive League with *Spain*; they underhand sought to weaken their Allies, by sending men and money with *Colbert*, *Schomberg*, and

under *Turenne's* Name, as Voluntiers to the Portuguezes, till a Ship that was taken by the Spaniards, happily discovered that the Portuguezes were stirred up and incouraged by the French in their Attempts against the Catholick King. *France*, by reason of a French Princess, seemed to be the greatest Friend in the World to *Poland*, but to shew what Friendship that was, they manage with *Swedeland* that Treaty of *Stumdorff* seemingly in favour to the Polanders, but in effect very prejudicial to them, and in the mean time *Avagour*, *Lombres*, and *Beziéres*, are imployed to set these Crowns together by the Ears, and to perswade King *Cazimer* of *Poland* to lay down his Crown, to make way for *Conde*, *Newburg*, or for some other Votary of *France*. Moreover, while this coaksing Nation did hugg the Emperour, he finds such Papers in the taking of *Muran*, a Fortress in the *Upper Hungaria*, which manifestly shewed that the French had in the mean time incouraged the Hungarians in this Rebellion.

3. Another Artifice of theirs is to send out *Sinons*, or pretended Fugitives, which are forsooth banished from their Court, yet these are in a secret Intelligence with them to send to 'em all Foreign Intelligences, by seeming to betray *France* to that Nation whereunto they fly. Thus have we known and seen Monsieur *Gourville* to be banisht, as it were upon the account of *Foucquet* to

Brus-

Brussells, *Madrid*, and the *Hague*. There to screw himself into favour, he communicated to 'em some empty Secrets, to hide from them the true State of Affairs of *France*. His Couriers did seemingly go from *Paris* to *Flanders* and *Holland*, and backward again; and in this Hurry, Course and Intercourse, he fed the Spaniards but with Chymera's, and sent an Accompt of their real Designs into *France*: But after all, when this Impostor was found out by the Spaniard, he was as heartily welcommed at *Paris*, as if no grudge had ever been; and from Intendant of the Prince of *Conde*'s, he was received into an inner favour. I could mention the *Guizes* in former times, who were banisht, to gull the Protestants, and some of late sent into *England*, and perhaps the Earl of *S.* (who in their Language makes sixteen) is this last month fled hither into *England*, upon no other occasion.

4. What should I run over the particulars I above promised to demonstrate, when all observing persons may prove them to themselves. When his late breaches of the Treaties of the Pyrenees, of *Breda*, of *Westphalia*, and of *Nimeguen*, do shew that *France* values no otherwise such Ties, than *Lisander* did the solemnest Oaths, that is to deceive men thereby, and to get a fit opportunity of breaking them to his advantage. But we intend to set forth shortly an Abstract of the Treaties of *France* with the House of *Austria* in this last Century, and the Reasons of the Alternative Growth and Decline of each of these, and therein it will from the words of the Treaties and Impartial Historians appear, how far the

French are to be trusted to in this point of Transactions and Covenants.

5. Now as to the use they may make of Emissaries and Pensioners abroad, to make Factions in the Neighbouring Courts; the clear-sighted know that Monsieur *Vaubrun* was sent into *Germany* but for to stir *Serin* and *Ragotzi*, against the House of *Austria*. Each one may perceive that the Prince *Furstemburg*, who is in *Bavaria*, does act in consort with the other *Furstemberg*, that resides in *France*: And that Monsieur *Gremonville* was the occasion of the Revolt in *Hungary*; for which and several other Divisions he wrought in *Vienna*, he was expell'd more civilly than he deserved.

The Archbishop of *Gnesne* and the Mareschal *Sobieski*, were the Pensioners that *France* bragg'd of in the Court of *Poland*; and of some also in ours, which could be named, but that a respectful tenderness for my Countrymen makes me more reserved, and shall shut them up in my own Breast, hoping they have since repented of such base and unnatural Treacheries, toward their generous and gracious King, and dear Countrey; especially knowing some of 'em to be dead, and others almost dying: which were mentioned in Parliament.

6. Now touching French Princesses they match out, to have occasion thereby to divide their Neighbours, God forbid that I should think that all the Ladies of that Rank were *Fredegonde*, *Brunehaut*, or *Helena* like, but that as this later was the occasion of the subtle *Grecians* getting foot into the Trojan Territories, and

of

of imbroyling and ravaging it by long Wars; so I observed that most commonly those French Princesses are Engines of State, to carry along with 'em abroad Corresponding Colonies of that restless, ambitious, and intriguing Nation, to make the interest of that Court where they go to bend to that of their Native Countrey, which they ever love best. I'll but glance at Examples. The very memory of *Mary* of *Nevers* is odious in *Poland*, by whose occasion that Country was brought into such inward Disturbances and Factions, that not long ago King *Cazimir* himself at last was fain to quit the Crown for a quiet Coole in the Abbey of St. *Germain* at *Paris* But the observant in Publick Affairs may find fresh Presidents hereof in *Tuscany*, *Portugal*, and perhaps *England* not long since; and I am affraid that Lady they of late sent to *Spain*, will be the pretence in time to come, of making more Demands than that of *Mastrick*, which they would now go about.

7. Hitherto we have toucht of the Causes or Instruments the French do make use of, now of the Effect, which is Divisions in Foreign Courts, either to cut out work for such at home, that they may be no Obstacle to the Carier of the French Conquests; or to make a Breach among us, at which they may creep in more easily. For the proof hereof, for brevities sake, I'll refer you to what I hinted above, touching the Divi-

sions

sions the French Emissaries wrought in *Poland* in and before the year 71, and likewise about and before that time in *Germany*, when their Agents swarmed there to sow those Seeds of War which we have since seen sprung up to such a height as cannot be yet cut down nor extirpated possibly by all the hands in *Europe*. *Colbert* the Junior (as I mention'd before) not long since carried away Corn and Coin, *viz.* Thirty thousand Crowns into *Portugal*, by way of Loan as it were, to raise the Countrey against the Spaniard, and so make a Diversion from *Flanders*. But the Instructions and Covenants whereby the French required some Sea-port Towns on the Coast of *Spain* to be given to themselves (as I warrant you they'll serve no Friend for nothing) these I say were seized in another Ship that straggled into the Spaniards Nett, where all the Mine was discovered. Such was the Disturbances they wrought in *Lorrain*, that the late Duke (somewhat guilty thereof himself) dolefully cried out, *That the Neighbourhood of* France *was a smoke that would drive him out of his own Countrey and Estate.*

What should I mention the Jealousies, Dissentions and Divisions, which we with tears behold here to be wrought by them in our *England* and its Dependants, when any unbyas's'd considering person may perceive that they strive to repeat the Scenes of the late Intestine Tragedy, wherein

wherein that Wicked French Embassadour Monsieur *de Thou*, by his Agents confessed and repented too late, to have acted here the Prologue, by traducing, blasting, and heightning in that moderate Royal Martyr a propensity to Popery, forsooth, by mis-representing the King to the People, the People and Parliament to the King, by unsuspected Instruments; by contriving means to divide the unwary Protestants about Formalities and petit Differences, about Indifferent Things, wherein it is impossible to unite 'em in, no otherwise than by Charity, Meekness, and Patience; for Persecution is observed to increase Proselites, and make 'em more zealous and vertuous; which otherwise without opposition would languish and decay: but if the work be of God, as *Gamaliel* said, that cannot be destroyed by Men by all art or power. When by such Artifices the French and Jesuit had blinded some Dissenting Zealots with specious Pretences of removing evil Councellors and of some Incroachments, then things being ripe, the greedy Lawless Souldier is brought on the Stage, to make our King and People bleed together, without seeing the Hook, but too late; when at first moderate and impartial Counsels might have healed things, if they might be suffered to come to an understanding; and to touch the Root of the Disease; *Sed quid hæc ingrata revolvo.*

But

But remember in a word, That whether Times tend to a further Dis-union of Spirits, or to a thorow Union, yet in either Juncture the Judgment of God and Man will soon find out those base *Sirens*, those Incendiaries, those French Pensioners and Lawless Statesmen, that seek to divide the good Father and his poor Children, and to rent miserably their own Mothers Bowels for private ends by unworthy Policies. And those Persons or Party (whatever it be) which recede most from French Devices and Popish Forms, and shall in their plain meaning and counsels, tend but to close to the honest Fundamental Laws of their Countrey and of the Gospel, after a simple, loyal, and charitable Interpretation; they and only they shall prevail and be in request with their King and Countrey at the long Run, for that God will be above Man. In fine, I refer to the Reader to judge, and to our Superiors to determine, Whether the mean proposed in the following Discourse (which lay by me) be so seasonable or practicable, which however I meant to be of this use, to make a Diversion of all Englishmens inward bitterness and choller, against a more fit Object and Enemy; that they may cease to look upon one another with a sharp Eye, but look off rather towards abroad, whence the Spring of our Divisions come; *viz.* from *France* and *Rome*.

THE

THE French Politician FOUND OUT.

THat the greateſt dangers of *Spain* were from *England*, by reaſon of our power at Sea, and that we could block up the *Spaniſh* Ports at pleaſure; this *our Monſieur* believed as firmly, as if it had been an Article of his Creed, and that the Plot, as he had laid it, in its ſucceſs was Infallible.

'Tis a Truth. But if it were ſome years ago the Intereſt of this Crown to accord to that Maxim; Time, and the preſent weakneſſes of *Spain* (*ſinking*

under its own burdens) have turn'd the Ballance; and made it impracticable. The Face and State of Affairs are now very much changed. *Henry* the *Seventh* was too nearly allied with the *House* of *Burgundy*, and *Ferdinand* the *Catholic*, not to have oppos'd the Cabals, which were then formed againſt *Mary*, to bereave her of the *Low-Countries*. His Son *Henry* the *Eighth* followed the ſame Counſels; and if at any times *Charles* the *Fifth* was travers'd by him, it aroſe from that juſt Apprehenſion he had of his growing Grandeurs; Fortune being more favourable to him, than to *Francis* the *Firſt*, whoſe loſs had been a fair Step unto his own.

Queen *Elizabeth* harboured the ſame Jealouſies; for *Spain*, puffed up with a long continued courſe of proſperous ſucceſſes, was not arriv'd to that pitch of Declenſion we ſee it now adays. And if *Charles* the *Firſt* beheld with an Eye of Envy the progreſs of *France*, *Charles* the *Second* might do it alſo, his Fear being much more warrantable, becauſe that Kingdom is grown more powerful, more formidable than when his Father reigned. And there be Arguments of Glory, Revenge, and Intereſt for my Aſſertion; all which, according to the beſt of my judgment, are ſtrictly interwoven one within the other.

Glory demands the continuance of the (*triple*) League, becauſe this had twice bridled a Prince who had ſlip'd out of it, and who, without this

Reſtraint, would have over-run all bounds by reaſon of his unmeaſurable Ambition, the ſole and unvariable Rule of all his Undertakings. Beſides, it can be no diſhonour unto *England* to be reproach'd of *France*, as heretofore, of ſlackneſs in aſſiſting her, and that we loved to prolong and foment her Civil Wars, if not to make them perpetual.

Revenge is yet another and ſtronger Motive to invigorate us in our conduct, whether you reflect upon what is paſt, or on things preſent. For the preſent, 'tis well known that the *French* promiſes are only tendred us for the better inabling them to play their own Game; and the miſchiefs they are now a brewing, ſhould now inſpire us with a greater abhorrency of their greater maſqued Villanies.

Moreover, thoſe brave Methods propounded by our *French Politician* for the ſubverſion of this Kingdom, whoſe Glory Eclipſeth theirs, are no longer with any patience to be endured.

Add farther that injurious manner wherewith they treat *England*, becauſe it carries the Ballance of *Europe*, and ſupports the Oppreſſed againſt their Violence and Tyranny.

And could we not remember thoſe Invectives wherewith they have wounded the whole Nation, yet this ſhould be conſidered, that they never ſpared the Sacred perſons of our Princes.

Ribier is pleas'd to ſtrew theſe ſweet Flowers upon *Henry* the *Eighth*, viz. *That he was the moſt Infidel and unconſtant Prince of his Age, full of Tentation and Double dealing, whoſe Soul Symboliz'd with the Seas environing his Iſland.*

And the fore-mentioned Author of the *French Politicks* adviſeth, that the King now reigning ſhould be voic'd a *Roman Catholic*, thereby to procure him his Subjects hatred, and to Augment it be feigned Letters written to ſome of the leading *Proteſtant Lords*, to render them ſuſpected, and procure their Ruin by a Maxim, which with extream imprudence they themſelves have divulged to the World.

Theſe Counſels and Invectives were all forged by them, becauſe *Henry* would not turn the Scales wholly of their ſide to deſtroy *Spain* and *England* in conſequence thereof, which without this invincible Obſtruction, muſt have been together by the ſame Torrent overwhelmed.

And as to what concerns *Charles* the *Second*, that general intereſt, in which inſenſibly he is engaged, affords Alliment to a damn'd Plot, which is by them ſecretly carried on againſt him. But I paſs this by, and come to the Queſtion under debate.

And it is this: That the Conſideration of what is paſt ſhould ſo far influence a potent Prince, who hath his Sword in his hands, as to carve out his own ſatisfactions from them, whoſe inſenſibleneſs of doing wrongs raiſeth them to ſuch a degree of Inſolence, as to deride us.

Aqui-

Aquitain, *Normandy*, and their dependant Provinces, together with *Guyſnes*, *Ardres*, *Bouloign*, and *Calais*, ancient Demeans of the Crown of *England*, are ſuch important pieces, and their Conqueſt ſo eaſie, that they will ſurrender themſelves as ſoon as *England* ſhall ſeriouſly invade them; provided, that the Obligation of the League and Powers compoſing it, remain firm and inviolable; and that from a meer defenſive War we become Aggreſſors, and deſpoil him of thoſe Trophies, who, after the glorious Example of his Anceſtors, hath enlarg'd the bounds of his own Dominions on the wrack and loſſes of his Neighbours.

But and if this Deſign be delay'd, and leaſure given *France* to debaſe *Spain*, then all muſt yield to the rapid courſe of that Nation, who is now making Chains for us, nay, carrieth them with her, to bind and enſlave ſuch who ſhall firſt make head againſt her, and at long run, of all thoſe who either ſecretly or openly maintained or abetted this horrible Deſign againſt the common and public ſafety. And let her Neighbours be once brought down, *England* deveſted of her Friends will be little more than the work of one day, and muſt fall in that very moment ſhe is Aſſaulted. The pretext is ready, either *England* ſhall loſe the Title of *France*, or *France* will uſurp that of *England*. I'le explain my ſelf ſomewhat more largely.

France

France being now rid, and ſtanding in no longer fear of her Competitors, will infallibly break with *England*, imitating herein Queen *Elizabeth*, who quarrell'd with *Francis* the *Second*, for Entituling himſelf Heir of that Crown ſhe poſſeſſed, and whereof ſhe was exceeding jealous, *Mary* of *Scotland* having furniſhed her Husband with a Title. But ſuppoſe this colourable pretence be neglected, yet will he ſerve himſelf of one more remote; for who ſo hath a mind to pick quarrels, and wage War, will never talk ſo big and loud, as the whole World may hear him. I'le not lead you far to fetch an Inſtance.

Lewis, Son of *Philip Auguſtus*, King of *France*, reigned in *England*, maugre all the oppoſitions of King *John*, who was depoſed for his Tyrannies. At length *John* having recollected his miſcarriages, reconciled himſelf with the Pope, becomes his Tributary, demulceth his Holineſs with his golden Promiſes, and profound Submiſſions, and *Lewis* unfortunately loſeth his newly acquir'd Crown. 'Tis true, he bequeathed the Right thereof (ſuch an one as it is) unto his Succeſſors, who preſerve it carefully, and aſſert it publicly, in a formal Prayer ſung in theſe expreſs words at their Coronation, *viz. That he will never relinquiſh the Scepter of the ancient* Saxons, Mercians, *and other Princes, who have reign'd in* England. And therefore the Kings of *France*, ſince *Lewis* the *Eighth*, may with more juſtice, ſay they, aſſume the Title of Kings of *England* than the Kings of *England* ſtyle themſelves Kings of *France*.

It

It was *Ribbir* that ſet up this imaginary Title, and ſuggeſted unto *France* a pretext and ground for falling out with *England* upon the firſt and next favourable opportuuity. I have given her the firſt Intelligence of the Thunderbolt: *England* may yet in time avoid it.

Is it to be imagin'd that *Loveis*, and many great ones, whoſe Fortune and that of their Friends depends upon Warlike Employments, will not now ſtir their King to thoſe new attempts againſt *England*, (in caſe they want other Employment) ſhewing unto him the eaſineſs of it, from the Diviſions, Jealouſies, and Unprovidedneſs that *England* is in, and the many ſecret Friends they have here. But in caſe they did alter theſe Meaſures, or not now execute them, yet ſeeing our forwardneſs, and our Spirits, Eyes, and Arms, to be up and ready for them; that, I ſay, will make ſtill our conditions better with them, whether we ſtand their Enemies, Friends, or Neuters; otherwiſe they will be more apt to ſlight both the one and the other.

But laſtly, let's give Intereſt leave to follow Revenge, and ſhew what Meaſures we ought to take from the Conſideration of this cogent Topic. I confeſs the Motive is interwoven with that of Glory, but yet more firmly, becauſe it runs on two Principles, and both of vaſt weight and conſequence; the one is particular and private Intereſt, the other is more general and public. This laſt aims at the common Repoſe of *Europe*, and its care and perpetual

petual endeavour must be to restrain the Ambition of those two great Potentates, who court the Empire, which cannot be effected without conserving *England*'s Peace at home, and confining those two inraged Neighbours to their just and respective Bounds, that if one of them should win any thing from his Rival, he may not presently invade *England*, who became an idle Spectator of their Actions, without cherishing their mutual Enmities, and giving a Curb to their several Enterprizes. If Reason of State speaks loudly in deaf Ears, Glory doth it in shriller and clearer Terms.

But over and above this general Peace of *Europe*, wherein I could wish *England* were occupied, there is somewhat in special that should rouse her up from her present Lethargie drowsiness, *viz.* That *France* brags how facil it is to blind her Eyes, and cause her to take what new Measures she pleaseth.

You will say these are points of grand Importance. Convince *England* of them. Well! I shall debate of both immediately.

Let's first touch at this of the common Safety, and we will in the next place consider of the proper means to bound *France*, that she may not abuse their Credulity, who can certainly and absolutely mortifie her.

Marillac, Ambassadour for *Francis* the *First*, thus writes to his Master from *London*, that the *English* were displeased they had suffered the *French* to fortifie

tifie *Ardres*, and that before it was too late, they would hinder the finishing those Fortifications: Adding, "*That they were next to the Heart* "*that the King had fortified* Ardres, *and that* "*they repented very much to have permitted our* "*men proceed so far, that yet notwithstanding they* "*had time enough to reduce matters to their former* "*state, because they had been informed that* Ardres "*could not yet in one whole year be so repaired, but that* "*it might be as easily forc'd.*

But if *Ardres*, which is no more than a shadow of what *France* possesseth in the *Low Countries*, did heretofore strike a Jealousie into *England*, should not that gross multitude of important Towns, and the Thirds of a large and vast Estate, render her now by far much more jealous? especially since it hath given such fearful and violent shocks unto the whole Land, made another Neighbour Republick tremble, yea and it trembles to this very day at their near Approaches; the *French* Armies being led on by a mighty Captain trained up in the School of business, enur'd to Hardships and fortunate Successes in all his Conduct and Administrations. And *Ardres* (to say nothing of *Calais* and *Gravèling*) is something less than *Dunkirk*, if it be considered according to the present Estimate that *France* doth set upon it. These two places are the two Ports, from whence one day the Storm shall be wafted over into *England*, if *England* suffer *France* to incorporate the Naval Forces of *Holland* with her

own, and to inoculate that fair Bud into her Imperial Crown. Persons of the weakest Understanding may without difficulty penetrate into the Issues and Successes of such an Union.

And let it be remembred, that *France* was formerly invenem'd against *England* for redemanding *Calais*, and having once got it out of the *Spaniards* hands, she wanted neither Armies, nor any other considerable means, to make a sure and speedy Conquest of other places.

If Fear then bounded their proceedings, because it was not so easie a matter to dispossess the *English*, where once they had got footing; yet was it easie enough to disseise and unroost others, either by Force or Treaty, as they did justly enough by that of *Vervins*; yet now the Tables are turn'd, for they once understanding that *Spain* is brought upon her knees, the Conquest of that and *England* will not cost much time nor pains. The Balance being now removed, their Forces augment daily, and like a violent Inundation carry all before them. It's true, this is yet impossible if *England* do not stand neuter, while other Nations are entering into more than a Triple League; which to effect the one and hinder the other, they turn every stone, they embarrass all Affairs, they support the Intrigue with a thousand hopes, and those hopes with a profuse expence of Treasure, which forceth a passage through those sordid Souls, whose sole Interest is their private Gain and Advantage. And that which

which is moſt ſurprizing is this, they engage the Favourites, who are Lords of th' Aſcendant at Court or elſewhere, and at this rate believe themſelves potent enough to give what Laws they pleaſe to all politick Tranſactions, if ſo be the true Intereſt give ground unto the falſe, which is cheating, changeable, and infallibly deſtructive to them that do embrace it.

And by theſe means they of late cut the *Gordian* Knot of that Triple League, as if they were cockſure beforehand of their deſigns, and their buſineſs were already done unto their hands; *Pomponne* was diſpatch'd into *Swedeland*, to diſengage that Crown from the League by the golden promiſes of Conqueſts, Penſions, and Preſents, which will go very far in a poor Countrey, and remove whatever Obſtacle ſtands in his way to the Empire of all *Europe*.

The worſt is, that in *France* at thoſe times they did publiſh this Negotiation, branding *England* with the goodly Names of *Unconſtant and Perfidious*. Which brings to my mind a ſtory of the *Viſcount of Narbonne*, who told an *Engliſhman*, "*That ſix hundred Tun of Wine and a Penſion had quickly ſent them back again to England.* The other anſwering, "*It was a Tribute and no Penſion.* This was in the Reign of *Lewis* XI. who diſengaged *England* from ſuccouring the Dukes of *Burgundy and Bretaigne*. The Jeſt was biting, but 'tis the uſual Coyn wherewith *France* pays ſuch whom it openly flatters, that

ſo ſhe may if poſſible ruin and ſtrangle them the more cunningly.

A League with *England* blocks up the *Spaniſh* Havens, ſo ſaith *du Pleſſis*; and the *French* are hot and intent upon it. Truth is, the Daughter of Time and Time muſt diſcover the events of this Maxim. Onely let me add by the way, that if *France* cannot prevail with *England* to do this Jobb for her, ſhe will tack about and treat with *Spain* upon other terms, that relinquiſhing the *Spaniſh* Netherlands ſhe ſhall be recompenced more abundantly with the Spoils of ſome other parts of *Europe*, which *France* will conquer for her. We will unriddle this Myſtery, and let *England* ſeriouſly conſider;

Caſtillon in his Embaſſie for *Francis* I. writing from *London* adviſeth his Maſter to a League with *Spain* againſt *England*; "*For (ſaith he) I would ever* "*counſel Your Majeſty to quit other deſigns, and accord* "*with Spain, and to give this Kingdom in prey, which* "*may be with more facility and leſs expence effected,* "*than to take Calais; for the expence cannot laſt above* "*one month or ſix weeks at the moſt. Divide England* "*between you, and let each take thoſe parts of it which* "*lie moſt commodious and convenient for him.* And in the cloſe he ſubjoyns, "*Your Majeſty may keep Wales,* "*and Cornwall, and Scotland for your ſelf, and beſtow the* "*ſorry remainders unto the Emperour.*

There be three things worthy our obſervation from this Embaſſador's advice. The one is, that

France

France believed she might cheat *Spain* into this treacherous Conquest, provided *Spain* would but sacrifice to her Covetousness and Ambition the *Low Countries*. The second is, that *Spain* keeps fast and faithful to the Publick, and prefers it before her own private Interest. And then lastly, because of this Phantastick League *England* must immediately and infallibly be conquer'd as soon as invaded, especially let her be once abandon'd of her Allies, and that *France* have brought *Spain* and *Holland* upon their knees, and hath united their scattered disjoynted Naval Forces with her own. I trust my Sentiments are plain, so plain that the meanest Capacity can comprehend me.

Alliances betwixt Crowns bring little profit to the People. This is visible in the Matches between the two Royal Houses of *France* and *England*; for no sooner was *Henrietta Maria* wedded unto King *Charles*, but State Interest and the Capricious Humours of the Favourites interrupted that Peace, which a long time before had continued between both Kingdoms, and by the Marriage was sworn to be perpetuated. Experience also of what had past might have render'd *Spain* more advised, and to have avoided that snare, into which she ran through false Maxims, with a great deal of Joy.

He onely quote one passage out of the Memoirs of the Duke of *Sully*; he then writing to *Henry* IV. about his Intrigues with *Spain* tells him; "*That* "*the growth of one Prince is the diminution of another*;

that

" *that no Parentage, Affinities, Leagues, Peace, Treaties,*
" *Agreements, Oaths, or reciprocal Promiſes, could ever*
" *yield ſufficient Precautions for time to come againſt In-*
" *tereſt of State.*

I could wiſh this Memoir affixed on the Cabinet of *Madrid* for their future Reformation, and that in time to come they would take other Meaſures; ſith *Lewis* XIV. adheres moſt pertinaciouſly to the Maxims of *Sully*, and that after a Treaty ſworn with the greateſt ſeriouſneſs and ſolemnity, and a Ceſſion of all Rights made and verified in due form of Law. For inſtead of obſerving it they are now debating other Rights, and demand an hundred things, which being refuſed, they take up Arms, and proceed to the worſt Acts of Hoſtility, leaving us without hopes of any Calm to follow upon this Storm, which menaceth with an univerſal Deluge all the *Netherlands*.

Give me leave to ſubjoyn one important Advice unto *England*: " *The Right of* Edward III. (ſaith " *Laboureur*) *is not worth the mentioning, were it not*
" *to tell the world how unrighteous the Engliſh are in*
" *their pretentions to it, and to manifeſt what neceſſity*
" *lieth on us to keep that Nation at a bay, at a diſtance*
" *from us, which is naturally quarrelſom, born our Enemy,*
" *and that will borrow Aſſiſtance whereever ſhe can get*
" *it, and take up any the leaſt pretext in the world to*
" *ſubdue and ruine us. Robert Abbot of La Celle re-*
" *proach'd an Engliſh Prelate with this, that his Coun-*
" *trymen in their Inclinations reſembled that Element*

which

"*which did encompaſs them, that is to ſay, they were* "*cruel, proud, unconſtant, and ſeditious.* Theſe are noble Elogies indeed conferr'd upon your Friends, *Monſieur*, in a time of perfect peace, nay upon your beſt and moſt potent Friends, to whom you have in this preſent Juncture of Affairs your Recourſe, and who are guilty of this very great Overſight, to ſuffer themſelves to be charmed by your Flatteries and Cozenages.

When as Queen *Elizabeth* redemanded *Calais* for juſt Reaſons ſhe then alleaged, the *French* reſolved rather to endure a War, wherewith ſhe menac'd them, than to ſurrender it: "*Becauſe* (ſaith the "ſame *Laboureur*) *there was a double danger, one to* "*ſuffer our ancient Enemies to get footing in the Conti-* "*nent of France; and then too becauſe they are Here-* "*ticks, who would always have a Faction in the State* "*to revive their old Quarrels at pleaſure; and that it* "*more concern'd us now than heretofore, to ſhut them* "*up with their new Religion on the other ſide the* "*Sea.*

This was done in the Sale of *Dunkirk*, and if any other place offer it ſelf to purchaſe, *France* will be no Higler, but purchaſe it at any rate, ſuppoſing ſhe be diſcharged of her Wars with *Spain*. Again, Queen *Elizabeth* inſiſting ſtill upon the Reſtitution of *Calais*, and ſpeaking of it unto *Sancy*, he after ſeveral ſhifts and excuſes, "*By God, Madam*, (quoth "he) *can Your Majeſty be ſo ſimple as to imagine the* "*King my Maſter would give you Calais again?* Which Anſwer

Answer touching her to the quick, she demands *Bouloigne* in lieu of it. The King, who foresaw the Consequence of the *English* setting footing once more on *French* Ground, commanded her to be told, "*That he had rather the King of Spain should give* "*him a Box on the ear, than the Queen of England* "*should give him a Filip.* And in troth she had not *Calais* when the term of Eight Years was expired, although according to Treaty it was then to have been surrendred, or Hostages and sufficient Security for payment of Five hundred thousand Crowns promised her in case of Non-performance. But as usual they fail of their Words, and the good Queen onely recovered Six score thousand Crowns at the Treaty of *Troys.*

Thus *Calais* is once again become *French. France* loves her own Repose and Glory too much ever to part with it; and the Subjects as well as their Prince are too much in love with it, to suffer it slip out of their hands. I speak but the very words of the Cardinal of *Lorrain*; "*There is no Frenchman* (saith he) "*but would rather hazard his Life, than advise the* "*King to surrender Calais, and would not more willingly* "*sacrifice his whole Estate, than once give his consent* "*thereunto.*

This was spoken like a true *Frenchman*, and their Neigbours should resent such daring Expressions as tenderly as they themselves do, if there be any thing of credit in what *S'aavedre* reports, "*That the* "*Prince's Acquists enhaunce his Dread and Reve-*

rence,

" rence, but what he forgoes redounds to his contempt and " scorn.

Francis I. would never engage himself with *Charles* V. against *England*, fearing lest in the Conquest of this Kingdom it should happen to him as it did in the Conquest of *Naples*, between *Ferdinand* of *Arragon* and *Lewis* XII. The Emperour being unable to brook an Equal, and himself a Superiour. Besides, *Francis* should have drawn upon himself a more potent Enemy, than him of whom he was rid: the Leopards of *England* being no less terrible than the Eagles of the Empire, or the Lions of *Castile*. Yea the *Spaniards* stifly seconded the *English* in their demands of *Calais*, confessing, *" That they " ought not to abandon them, and that if they were not " protected, they very well knew Spain would be next " ruin'd; so that their own Losses would be greatest.* This is written by the Cardinal of *Lorrain*.

Spain then reason'd solidly and judiciously. In prospect of this, *Henry* VIII. coined Medals of Gold, on whose Reverse a Hand appeared out of a Cloud, holding a Pair of Balances *in æquilibrio*; the two Scales whereof signified *France* and *Spain*, with this Motto, *He wins on whose side I turn.*

Queen *Elizabeth* governed her self by the same Maxim, and assisted *Henry* IV. so long as he was weakest, but seasonably forbore when once she saw him start up beyond his just and proper bounds; and at that time told *Sully*, *" That neither France nor " England, nor any others, had any thing to do with the*

"*Low Countries*; *and that she would never endure the* "*French King should gain so much as one inch of ground* "*there.*

And when as Pope *Clement* VIII. told Cardinal *Ossat*, that *England* hated *France* implacably; he replied, "*At this time England hates Spain more; and that* "*they ought now to regard the present state of Affairs,* "*which had united both French and English against a* "*common Enemy by one common Interest, which was* "*evermore the strongest and securest band among all* "*States and Princes.*

This Reason which once serv'd the turn of *France*, shall at another opportunity do *Spain* a kindness; "*Because Kingdoms are not to be reputed strong or weak* "*as they be in themselves, but as they hold comparison* "*with their Neighbours, and from proportion wherewith* "*they are adjusted one unto another.*

Du Plessis sent this Message to *Walsingham* in *England*, not to abandon *Henry* IV. nor the *German* Protestants. Let's see whether we may not use those self-same words to evince the true Interest of *England*. *Charles* I. was convinc'd of it, and *Charles* II. hath been also, and will be possibly yet more, when like a great and deep Statesman he shall be pleased to penetrate into the future. And it is not to be doubted, by the way he begins to take, and by what he had done formerly in Person at the Head of his Army, that he will not suffer himself to be overreach'd by false Reasonings, nor give his Slanderers occasion to say of him as of his Grandfather King

James,

James, "*That he knew not how, nor ever cared to "manage buſineſſes, nor would once put his hands to "diſpatch them, till ſuch time as both means and oppor-"tunities had quite forſook him.*

I don't doubt but that *Charles*, our gracious King who now reigneth, will recollect what happen'd, how, and by whom, unto his Father; and what manner of Treatment he met with all in *France*, even with no leſs than Baniſhment. And for all poſſible Allurements from the *French*, he may be fully confident of receiving the ſame meaſure from them again, if the ſame occaſion were, which God forbid; or if he quit *Spain* with his own true Intereſt, and that of his Kingdom, which ſubſiſts by Commerce, to imbrace the Humours and Private Intereſt of half-ſighted and corrupt Miniſters. *France* debitting none other Commodities than her Brandies and Apiſh Gewgaws, in lieu of thoſe ſubſtantial Merchandizes *England* hath of her own, and importeth for all Quarters of the habitable World. And when Realities are forſaken, and Deceits and Cheats taken, immoderate and reſtleſs Spirits do ordinarily take hold of ſuch ſenſible Arguments, to alienate and imbitter the Hearts of the People; which though frequently too too querimonious, yet gracious Princes without humouring them in all their childiſh Cravings, will nevertheleſs comply with all that ſhall be manifeſtly for their ſolid Good.

It were a pleaſant ſtory to relate the Civilities of

France to *Edward* IV. who being at a pinch, and driven out of his Kingdom by a Competitor, and applying himſelf to one of their Kings for Aſſiſtance, could get none other Anſwer than this; "*That the League was made with the King of England* "*and his State; but he being no longer King of Eng-* "*land, France could not without violating the Articles* "*of that League employ their Arms againſt him, who was* "*then actually poſſeſſed of the Crown.*

They diſcharged themſelves of him very handſomly; and 'twas a fine piece of Raillery. God forbid we ſhould be miſinterpreted to give theſe as ſawcy *Omens*, that which we give as plain and ſincere *Items*, not to rely upon the *French* Amity, which will prove a broken reed in caſe of need, as former and later Examples convince us. Yet this Fear is groundleſs in our days (*thanks be to God*) for *Charles* is a Prince ſo Auguſt, of ſo much Juſtice, and withall ſo well acquainted with the World as to that point, that he will not neglect the Glory redounding to him from thoſe Victories he may atchieve with a wet Finger, by treading in the Footſteps of his renowned Anceſtours. "*Above all it's then moſt needful to uſe ſuch means,* "*when as a Sovereign Prince is grown ſo puiſſant by his* "*Arms, that the progreſs of his Victories do make him* "*terrible to his Neighbours.* The Duke of *Roan* gives the ſame Advice in his *Intereſt of Princes.*

Thus

Thus I have endeavoured to lay open *Monſieur* and his Policies, if our Eyes will be but open to ſee 'em. And though we have propoſed ſuch ways and meaſures of attacquing the *French* in part of their own Dominions, which may not be deemed to be at this Juncture ſo practicable, as if we ſhould rather go about to weaken 'em by helping their Enemies and our Allies; yet that is an Executive part, and fitter for other perſons to direct and preſcribe. Our Deſign here being onely to make ſuch an Anſwer as we thought the fitteſt to brow-beat that domineering Nation; we judged that the apteſt and ſhorteſt way to refute their Contumelies and ſhallow Pretenſions on *England*, was plainly to raiſe a Counter-battery of other Pretenſions on *France*, which are more grounded; to ſpeak to them like *Britains*, or old *Engliſhmen*, to borrow ſome ſtrong Arguments *ad hominem* from both the *Edwards* Quiver, to manifeſt that we are not ſo weak as to ſtand a ſcanning it with 'em Scholar-like with a weak Pen; but rather Man-like to ſhew, that we are more ready to make an Anſwer with our Swords, and with the point of it to prick this Bladder of Ambition, which ſo vainly puffs 'em up in conceit above their Neighbours, whom they ſo preſumptuouſly deſpiſe, ſlander, and would trample under; as if they forgot that the *Engliſh* are the ſame when e're put to it, that they felt 'em to be at *Poictiers*, at *Guyenne*, and many other places in *France*, in the days of old.

But

But if they or any of them in *England* will take offence at any thing that's ſaid here, we ſay 'tis but a Retaliation to their Writers. If they ſay, that their Writers ſpoke but their private ſenſe, then let this paſs for ſuch another piece. For I proteſt no publick or private perſon ever moved me to it, but the meer diſintereſted Affection I bear to my Countrey; and I am ſo far from having any particular grudge againſt the *French* on any account, (ſuch as the Common People uſually have they know not why) that I declare they have been far more juſt and grateful to me than *England* it ſelf. But let that paſs; and if the *French* will or muſt own, that the *French* Politician, and theſe other Defamatory *Memoirs*, came from the Cloſet of publick perſons, and were ſpirited and are followed by ſuch in their preſent courſes; we *Engliſhmen* do likewiſe for our parts (whatever has been here ſaid by way of Argument, and to ſhew *Frenchmen* that we want neither Eyes, Feeling, nor Courage) ſubmiſſively and wholly leave it to our Sovereign and his Counſellors, to return a more fit and publick Anſwer to *France* in this point in their own due time.

For we are not unſenſible, that thoſe that ſit in eminent places have a larger and clearer proſpect of things than others; ſo that the word of Command and Motion is to be always expected from them as from the head: but ſometimes perſons that ſtand on a far lower ground may have a more particular knowledge of ſome Gaps and Precipices which are

juſt

juſt within their own reach and precinct. And even a Courrier or Scout may without reflexion to his Generals, make a report touching the matters of fact he has obſerved in his courſe on the borders of the Enemy, and alſo what he thinks of their next Motions, by what he hath heard or ſeen among themſelves.

FINIS.

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